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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 16-22 and 48-53 were withdrawn, without prejudice, in the Election and Amendment filed February 19, 2003. Claim 23 was previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In making these withdrawals and this cancellation without prejudice, Applicants reserve all rights in these claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

Claims 1-15 and 24-47 are pending in the application. Claims 1-15 and 24-47 have been rejected. Claims 1, 2, 9-11, 13-15, 24, 37 and 41 have been amended. Claims 38 and 42 have been cancelled. The amendments to the claims add no new matter.

Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments to the claims add no new matter.

Telephone Interview

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner, Eleni Mantis Mercader, for granting and attending the telephone interview, with Applicants' Representative, Caleb Pollack, Reg. No. 37,912, on 23 March, 2004. During the interview, amendments to claim 1 were discussed, in view of Schentag et al., United States Patent Number 5,279,607, Lemelson, United States Patent Number 5,993,378, and Iddan et. Al., United States Patent Number 5,604,531. The amendments to claim 1 were provided as an example and were applicable, with appropriate modifications, to the other pending claims

Applicants asserted that the proposed amendments overcame the prior art of record for at least the reason that the prior art of record does not generate a map from at least the image data (while video data – see claim 13 – was not discussed, Applicants assert that the

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prior art also does not teach a map generated from video data). Examiner Mercader indicated that the amendments may require a further search and that an RCE may be required to have the amendment entered. No final agreement was reached, but the Examiner did agree to consider Applicants proposed amendments when submitted in conjunction with an RCE.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-12, 24-28, 30-39, 41-43 and 45-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Schentag et al. '607 in view of Lemelson '378.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-12, 24-28, 30-39, 41-43 and 45-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Applicants assert that neither Schentag nor Lemelson, alone or in combination, teach or suggest generation or use of a map from or based on image data or video data, as variously required by independent claims 1, 9, 13, 24, 37 and 41, as amended.

An obviousness rejection requires a teaching or a suggestion by the relied upon prior art of all the elements of a claim (M.P.E.P. §2142). Since neither Schentag nor Lemelson, alone or in combination, teach or suggest all the elements of any of independent claims 1, 9, 13, 24, 37 and 41, as amended, none of these claims are obvious over Schentag or Lemelson, alone or in combination. Each of dependent claims 2-8, 10-12, 14-15, 25-36, 39-40 and 43-47 are dependent on and include the limitations of one of independent claims 1, 9, 13, 24, 37, and 41, which, as discussed above, are allowable; thus dependent claims 2-8, 10-12, 14-15, 25-36, 39-40 and 43-47 are likewise allowable.

Applicants thus respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-12, 24-28, 30-39, 41-43 and 45-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Schentag et al. '607 in view of Lemelson '378.

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In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 4-5, 29, 40 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Schentag et al. '607 and further in view of Iddan et al. '531.

Each of claims 4-5, 29, 40 and 44 are dependent on and include the limitations of one of independent claims 1, 24, 37 and 41, which, as discussed above, are allowable. Iddan does not cure the deficiencies of Schentag or Lemelson; for example Iddan does not teach or suggest generation or use of a map from or based on image data. Thus dependent claims 4-5, 29, 40 and 44 are likewise allowable.

Thus Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 4-5, 29, 40 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Schentag et al. '607 and further in view of Iddan et al. '531.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Iddan et al. '531 in view of Lemelson '378. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 13-15 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Iddan et al. '531 in view of Lemelson '378.

Applicants assert that neither Schentag nor Lemelson, alone or in combination, teach or suggest generation or use of a map from or based video data, required by independent claim 13, as amended.

An obviousness rejection requires a teaching or a suggestion by the relied upon prior art of all the elements of a claim (M.P.E.P. §2142). Since neither Iddan nor Lemelson, alone or in combination, teach or suggest all the elements of any of independent claim 13, as amended, claim 13 is not obvious over Iddan or Lemelson, alone or in combination. Each of dependent claims 14-15 are dependent on and include the limitations of independent claim 13, which, as discussed above, is allowable; thus dependent claims 14-15 are likewise allowable.

Thus applicants thus request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Iddan et al. '531 in view of Lemelson '378.

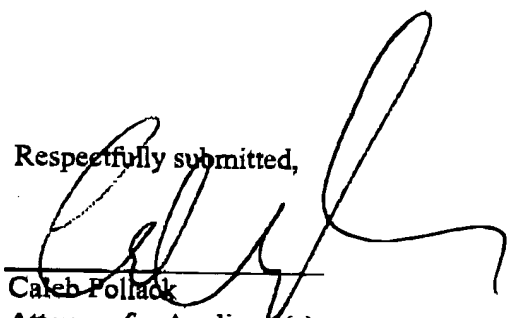
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

The fee for the RCE and petition for extension of time are being requested separately. No other fees are believed to be due. However, if any fees are due, please charge any such fees to deposit account No. 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: April 16, 2004

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